

California GARDEN

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1995

Volume 86 No. 5

\$1.50



HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

SEPT. 2-4

INTERNATIONAL FERN SOCIETY Show & Sale. The Arboretum of Los Angeles County, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Sat. thru Mon. 9AM-4:30PM. 310/698-7696. Fee.

SEP. 5

★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Appalachian Basketry Class. Casa del Prado, Rm 104, Balboa Park. Natural materials provided. Tues. 9:30AM-2:30PM. 232-5762. \$15.

SEP. 6

SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES' COUNCIL Standard Flower Show. "Gulliver's Travels". Casa del Prado, Rm 101, Balboa Park. Wed. 11AM-1PM. Free.

SEP. 7

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Master Composters Class. 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Thurs. 6:15-8:45PM. 436-3036. Cost \$20.

THE HUNTINGTON First Thursday Garden Talk. 1151 Oxford Rd. San Marino. 2:30PM. Caudiciforms: Plants with middle age spread. 818/405-2141. Donation \$7.50.

SEP. 10

SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY Plant Sale. Casa del Prado, Rm 101, Balboa Park. Iris rhizomes sale. Sunday, 10AM-3PM. Call 531-5001.

SEP. 11

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Landscape Design, Pat Welsh speaker. Satellite Wagering Facility of Del Mar Racetrack, Jimmy Durante Blvd. Mon. 6:30-9PM. 630-7307.

SEP. 12

★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Basket Class. Casa del Prado, Rm 104, Balboa Park. Make up class. Natural materials. Tues. 9:30AM-2:30PM. RSVP 232-5762. \$5.

SEP. 16-17

HEARTLAND AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY 6th Fall Show. Casa del Prado, Rm 101, Balboa Park. Sat. 1-5PM; Sun. 10AM-4:30PM. Free.

SEP. 23-24

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB INC. Fall Show. Casa del Prado, Rm 101, Balboa Park. Sat. & Sun. 10AM-5PM. Free.

SEP. 30

THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY Annual Plant Sale. UC Irvine, Arboretum. Sat. 10AM-3PM. 714/824-5833. Free.

OCT. 7-8

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN FOUNDATION, INC. 6TH Annual Fall Plant Sale. 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula. Sat & Sun 10AM-4PM. 310/544-1948. \$5.

OCT. 7-8

ICHIYO SCHOOL OF IKEBANA S. D. Chapter. Exhibit & Bazaar. Casa del Prado, Rm 101, Balboa Park. Sat. & Sun. 11AM-4PM. Demonstrations 1PM & 2PM. Free.

OCT. 13-14

DESCANSO GARDENS Annual Plant Sale. 1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada Flintridge. Fri. and Sat. 9AM-5PM. 818/952-4401. \$5.

OCT. 14

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY Plant, Bulb Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat. 10AM-2PM. Call 277-9485.

OCT. 14-15

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Orchid Fair. 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Sat. & Sun. 9AM-5PM. 234-3818. \$2.

OCT. 17

★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Appalachian Basketry Class. Casa del Prado, Rm 104, Balboa Park. Tues. 9:30AM-2:20PM. Man made materials provided. RSVP 232-5762. \$15.

★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Quarterly Meeting/Program. Casa del Prado, Rm 101, Balboa Park. Dinner 5:45PM. RSVP Please. 232-5762. \$5, \$6, Pay at the door \$7.

OCT. 18-21

THE LOS ANGELES GARDEN SHOW at The Arboretum of Los Angeles County. 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. 9AM-5PM. 714/650-4846. Prior to show \$5. At show \$6.

OCT. 21-22

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY Fall Mini-Show. Casa del Prado, Rm 101, Balboa Park. Sat. Noon-5PM; Sun. 10AM-4:30PM. Free.

OCT. 21-22

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Annual Plant Sale. 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Sat. & Sun. 9AM-3PM. 436-3036. Per Person \$1. **DESCANSO GARDENS** Rose Show. 1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada Flintridge. 9AM-5PM. 818/952-440. \$5.

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THE MAGAZINE FOR THE HANDS-ON GARDENER

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1995

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Cover drawing of *Chamaedorea erumpens*, bamboo palm, and *Phoenix roebelenii*, pygmy date palm, by Pat Maley Belkham

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Gleanings . . .

VEGETABLE PLANTING TIME . . .

Newcomers are always surprised when they learn that fall and winter are the planting and growing period for many vegetables. These are the *cool weather* vegetables that are commonly grown in most of the USA in the spring and summer. Just remember that most vegetables require a minimum of six hours of direct sunlight each day in order to produce a satisfactory crop. If you do not wish to start them from seeds, pony packs of ready-to-plant vegetables are available at most nurseries. Even container gardeners enjoy growing *greens* for salads in their patios or on decks or balconies.

GARLIC SNIPPINGS . . .

Did you know that you can plant a garlic clove in a windowsill pot and then trim the greens for a delicate garlic addition to salads? Chives in pots have been popular kitchen plants, but the garlic can be used and grown in the same way. Fill a pot with planting mix and plant the cloves with the pointed end sticking out. Sit the pot on a warm windowsill, keep the soil moist but not wet, and in about a month you should be able to start trimming the garlic flavored greens for use as a garnish. This is gardening a child would enjoy and the pot of growing garlic greens could be used as a holiday gift.

PLANTING JADE PLANTS . . .

Many Southern Californians are finding that the old standby jade plant (*Crassula argentea*) makes a wonderful green background planting for the sides of their homes or to border a driveway or patio. They grow in pots, too. Jade plants need a minimum of care and water and are a nice green color. In the summer the leaves will turn reddish if exposed to too much sun, but they will return in the winter to the usual dark green. If it is in the sun in the winter the plant will be covered with masses of tiny pinkish flowers. It is a succulent and can and does plant

itself whenever a piece falls to the ground. Anyone can plant one. Cut or break off a piece. Let the cut end harden off (dry in the air) for a few days and stick it into the ground. Note how roots have started along the stem in the picture. This piece was not planted for several weeks. Roots will start in the ground in a very short time, and if water is available it will be a thriving plant in a month or so. If planted in the summer, the plant will need regular watering until established. If planted in the rainy season, usually January and February, it needs no care. If the plant is neglected in the dry months and the leaves begin to shrivel and drop, do not discard it. Come the rain or water, it will usually brighten up and regain its former healthy state.

Many use potted jade plants as house plants. For use in very dark places, two plants are used. One plant is moved outdoors into the sun and watered well every week while the replacement plant is indoors. The plants will last for years.

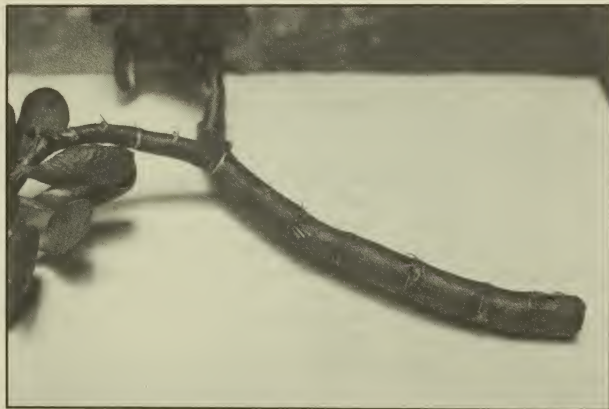
The plant has become popular for landscaping outdoor dining areas. It is

very attractive at night if lighted with strings of tiny lights.

After a plant has been trimmed, the spot may be unsightly for a few weeks. Soon new leaves will grow in the spot. It lends itself quite well to shaping and plants will grow six to eight feet tall.

TOMATO PROBLEMS . . .

Everyone is having trouble with their garden-grown tomatoes this year. Many are deformed and bug-eaten and the foliage is yellow. The weather has been cooler and the amount of sun has been less (especially near the coast). One very experienced gardener suggested that the crops should be rotated. (Do not plant the same vegetable in the same area every time.) Let the "pests" die out in the soil for a year or two before replanting tomatoes in the same area. □



Crassula argentea with hair roots developing on the stem

USING PALMS IN THE LANDSCAPE

AN AFICIONADO'S PERSPECTIVE

BY DONALD R. HODEL

PALMS FILL A VARIETY of roles in the landscape that few other plants can duplicate. There are species for nearly every landscape situation, indoors and out, sun or shade, coastal areas to interior valley. All palms convey a tropical accent and atmosphere like no other plant material.



Caryota - fishtail palm

California and Mexican fan palms, *livistonas* and Canary Island date palms are unsurpassed for vertical effect in parks and large gardens, along avenues and entrances to buildings and large homes. They impressively divide space and give form to large volumes of air. These palms used as lines of trees dominate the skyline, lend character and scale and unify diverse but boringly plain buildings and developments.

Tall, straight, regal palms with larger crowns, like the date, California fan, and Canary Island date, need lots of space: do not crowd them. Tall palms with smaller crowns, such as the San Jose hesper and Mexican fan, can be planted closely or even placed in the same hole. If so, use specimens of staggered heights.

Small-to-medium-sized palms like the king, kentia, Mediterranean fan, Guadalupe, pindo, and windmill are excellent for smaller

gardens, homes, or landscape sites. (Ed. note: Choose trees for your microclimate using the author's offered chart or *Sunset Western Garden Book*.)

Palms are *prima donnas*; different species do not combine easily. Expect a busy, loud, clashing jumble unless you use groups or clumps of the same species staggered at varying heights. Include some broad-leaved trees, such as *Ficus*, *Citrus*, *Eucalyptus*, *Metrosideros*, or *Albizia* to act as foils for the vibrant and competing palms.

Give all palms a lot of room; don't crowd them next to other plants or buildings, especially the clumping types (like Mediterranean fan palm or Senegal date), which are bound to spread with age. Near swimming pools, lakes, rivers, streams, even seashores palms impart a romantic atmosphere and infrequently drop leaves or other litter. (Editor's note: Obviously Mr. Hodel assumes the homeowner will cut off flower or fruit and seed clusters before they drop.) Several species, such as Guadalupe, pindo, Mediterranean fan, and Mexican fan, **tolerate if not thrive** in the wind and salt spray of first exposure on the seacoast.

CULTURE

Palms require regular irrigation to establish rapidly and grow their best. Once established, species from harsh, usually dry climates, like the braheas, pindo, Mexican and California fans and Mediterranean fan are remarkably drought-resistant, especially in coastal areas. The best management practice, though, is to irrigate all palms regularly and deeply.



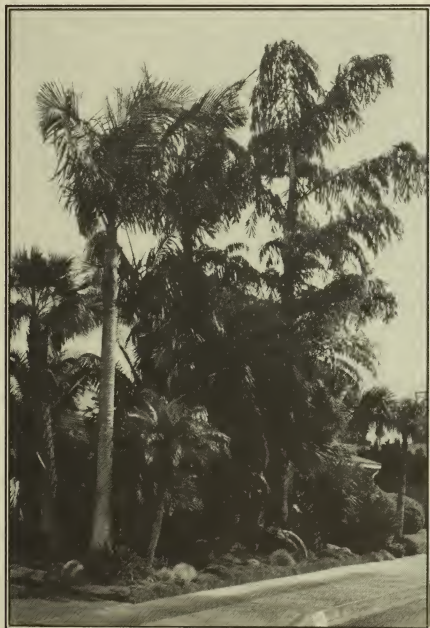
Chamaerops humilis - Mediterranean fan palm

PROBLEMS

Palms like the king palm, placed in windy areas, such as the immediate coast or in canyon mouths, will suffer damage unless protected. Scarred, tattered, and broken leaves are the earmarks of wind damage. Salt injury, not confined to coastal areas, may show as leaf-tip and margin burn. Such burned areas also may be symptomatic of root injury.

Vertical splits or cracks in palm trunks usually indicate water stress, either from too much or too little. Check for proper irrigation.

When palms are misplaced or mismanaged, diseases, pests, and physiological problems can be troublesome. Avoid using California fan palm on the coast where it is susceptible to pink rot. Don't cut off living Canary Island fan palm fronds and spread fusarium wilt disease, which can be transmitted by chain and hand saws. □



(Mr. Hodel recommends using groups or clumps of the same species, staggered at varying heights. Contrarily, many San Diego area hobbyists enjoy clustering their palm collections. The above grouping of various species is on Waring Road west of Navajo Road. Photograph by R. S. Lauridsen.)

(Hodel created a six page chart listing palm species botanical and common names, place of origin, hardiness, trunk and leaf description, and remarks pertinent to their landscape use. *California Garden* will mail this to you on receipt of a large stamped, self-addressed envelope.)

Donald R. Hodel is an Environmental Horticulture Advisor for University of California Cooperative Extension. He lectures and writes for both popular and technical journals. He is the author of the books *Exceptional Trees of Los Angeles* and *Chamaedorea Palms: the Species and Their Cultivation*. Photographs on page 133 are by Betty Newton.

A WATER-WISE PUBLIC GARDEN

BY PAMELA HOMFELT

GARDENIAS IN THE NEW Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation Water-Wise Garden? Not only gardenias but ferns, camellias, princess flower, fuchsia and azaleas. Yes, the former Xeriscape Garden at the Wild Animal Park is again flourishing with new pathways, benches, rock walls, pergolas for a shady rest spot, and over one hundred different plant species. The garden is based on the seven steps of xeriscape. It was designed, planted, and is being maintained by the San Diego County Xeriscape Council and a great group of dedicated volunteers. [See design on page 144.]

The goal of the Council and the Wild Animal Park is to educate the public on responsible landscaping and to change misconceptions of the xeriscape philosophy. We hope to show homeowners that all types of plants can be used in a water-saving garden if organized correctly in the design phase. Many flowering plants were chosen for the garden creating year-round color (and food for the deer!).

Since the garden was designed to emulate a residential situation, many common landscape plants were incorporated to demonstrate their inherent drought tolerance. As many new species as we could squeeze in were used to show the variation of low-water-use plants. We are hoping the garden will become a showcase for many new introductions in the future.

During the initial design phase, the site was divided into four hydro-zones, areas in which plants are chosen first of all by water requirements. The high-water-use zone, approximately one-eighth of the site, was located around the water feature, a three-pool waterfall. This area is planted with roses, tropicals, annual color, and other specialty plants that require watering two to three times a week.

The moderate-water-use zone is where most of the commonly used landscape plants are located, daylilies, Indian hawthorne, mock orange, lily of the Nile, natal plum, African mallow, and ivy geranium. The low-water-use zone is the largest area of the garden, approximately

(continued on page 143)

LIGHT ENOUGH FOR PALMS INDOORS, IF . . .

BY BETTY NEWTON

PALMS, WITH THEIR particularly graceful fronds, can be a part of most interiors once you understand their requirements. Palms can thrive indoors now in cases where they would not have before because growers finally know what is necessary to acclimate them and thus prepare them for lower light conditions.

In the old days, palms destined for indoors tended to be grown in full sun until close to desired size. They certainly grew faster there. Later they were moved to a shade house for the last two or three months. In that length of time, a palm is doing well to produce one or two new shade-grown leaves. Consequently, many so-called indoor palms were not truly adapted to low light. When stressed, palms will not quickly drop most sun-grown leaves and grow new leaves efficient at photosynthesizing in the lower light. (Other plants, like *Ficus*, do this.)

The research indicated that palms destined to live indoors (1) need to grow all the way from seed germination to early maturity in shade or (2) if sun grown, must be moved to shade at least twelve to eighteen months before sale. The number of palms that can be used indoors is greatly increased when the source follows these simple, but absolute rules of consistent lower-light growing conditions.

Remember that the number of hours a plant receives light is as important as the quality and intensity of that light. A skylight can provide adequate light for an interior plant if it provides five to six hours of light a day.

PROBLEMS

Palms grown indoors particularly need proper watering. They are susceptible to *Phytophthora* fungus when they get too much water. The roots need oxygen—which water can replace in the soil—to respire and remain healthy. Both a lighter soil mix (more perlite, scoria, beads, or vermiculite mixed in) and planters raised above drain water help eliminate this rotting problem.

Interestingly, since palms inside are not generally grown in quite the bright shade they got during nursery production, nutrition is rarely a problem. Very dilute liquid feedings two to three times a year will usually provide adequate nutritional levels. If a lack of some element appears (leaves appear light yellow, spotted, or

streaked) it usually reflects root damage.

Other indoor palm problems result from dry air. Spider mites and mealybugs may attack. Burned tips and margins reflect lack of adequate humidity.

MINIMUM LIGHT REQUIREMENTS AFTER ONE AND ONE-HALF YEARS IN SHADE

Listed here are some indoor palms with a few that are unfamiliar and may not be available (the more familiar have an asterisk).

(Ed. note: A corn field in Iowa has 10,000 foot-candles of light on a summer day; an east- or west-facing window with some overhang has about 400 foot-candles; a north window has about 100 foot-candles.)

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Howea forsteriana - kentia palm
Drawing by Carol Leland

UPDATING OUR LANDSCAPES FOR THE 1990s

by JON BECKER

IN THE 1970s AND 80s many home buyers thought of their houses as temporary residences. They expected to sell for a profit as they moved up to a more desirable domicile. Home values and consequent equity rose steadily. Then the economy changed.

We know that San Diego has some of the best weather in the country. The coast's 70°F. average temperatures and 9.9 inches of rainfall per year make it logical to spend a lot of time outdoors. The desirable climate contributes to making this one of the least affordable housing markets in the country. A home purchase takes a very high percentage of the family budget. In June 1995 the median resale home price in San Diego county was \$169,000. (San Diego Union-Tribune July 30, 1995.)

Superb climate and expensive homes influence our lifestyles and budgets. The same household budget can customize a home's yard while improving both the recreational use and the marketability. With home values stable now, professionally prepared landscaping plans, tailored to individual ways of life, can improve the usability of outdoor space, increase a home's value, and still be within your budget.

In many of our growing communities of tract housing both style and security can be provided. The uniqueness of individuality, within a neighborhood of common facades, is achieved through distinctive plantings and personalized hardscapes. The need to improve on the home's security can be through gating the entrance, lighting the landscape, or planning for brush management. Older existing landscapes benefit from these same merits or from designs that enhance the property's usefulness for family gatherings, for entertaining, and as a retreat from the day's routine.

A well-appointed landscape can easily pay back the initial investment when the house is sold. Realtors recognize the merits of communities like Scripps Ranch and Rancho Santa Fe, with tree-lined streets, and the marketability of a home with strong curb appeal. Quality landscaping shortens the time a home is on the market. The American Association of Nurserymen calculates that the recovery value of landscaping costs arrange from 100% to 200%. Appraisers find landscaping raises property values 10% to 30%. The current price of a median resale home here is \$169,000; the landscaping contributes \$16,900 to \$50,700 of that price. You can easily estimate your own home resale value and figure 10% to 30% of that to judge the value of landscaping to you.

An imaginative and functional landscape design can

be personally tailored for outdoor space use. With such a plan a small home can "live" like a large one. Outdoor "rooms" can be enjoyed through the design of large gathering areas, private retreats, or as a mural viewed from inside the house. Well-planned designs can increase the perception of space through the extension of views from within.

The house and owners' lifestyle can be extended by introducing hardscape elements such as outdoor seating areas, barbecues with counter tops, walls, overhead trellises, sport courts, and accent lighting. Pools, patios, trees and turf may also add to usable square footage. A family's style may be reflected with proper mix of trees and shrubs, and maintenance costs kept low by using many drought-tolerant plants.

Species such as California peppers, coast live oaks, olives, carobs, some palms, crape myrtle, loquats, drought tolerant lantana, fortnight lily, sea lavender, New Zealand flax, rosemary, rockrose, santolina, and Indian hawthorn can reduce waterings. These give ample variety of color, texture, flower shape and sizes, and fragrance. Screens of pines, melaleuca, and Brisbane box can be placed thoughtfully, sited to provide interest while blocking wind or disagreeable views. Individual specimen trees can add shade, color, and fragrances as well as create barriers or serve as backdrops. In a personal plan, orchard and garden areas can be sited to allow room for ongoing hobbies with future harvest values.

Proper design for hillside lots provides for brush management to minimize the effect of wildfire. At the least a design adjacent to open space should include appropriate irrigation, new low-fuel-volume plants and selective thinning. (Coastal sage scrub preserves were provided in many developments of the last twenty years.)

Through San Diego's economic recovery the thinking that resulted from the almost inevitable "move up" of the 70s and 80s is changing. Stable home prices and maturing communities suggest the opportunity to effectively improve your way of life, your home's livability, value, and safety by using a professionally designed master landscape plan of the *entire* home, from property line to property line. □

Jon Becker, RLA #2425, is a graduate Landscape Architect from Ohio State University, has a Certificate in Real Estate Land Development from UCSD, and is a member of ASLA. He has designed for Westview, Sun Ridge Vistas, Circle "R", and Valley Center Country Estates developments. He designed Encanto Park. He is active in small land planning projects and residential design.

WHEN IS A PALM NOT A PALM

BY ROBERT D. HORWITZ

AN IDEAL PLANT that will add decoration to a patio or a small garden is the sago palm (*Cycas revoluta*). This species, native to Java, is the cycad most frequently cultivated. It can be used as an indoor plant, too, if given proper care. The plant resembles a fern in the way that it sends out fronds from a central trunk and those fronds have leaves that radiate out from a central spine. All of this gives it its fern-like appearance. The leaves are dark green and quite tough, while the trunk is very rough and much like a palm tree trunk with stubs of old cut-off leaves protruding from it.

The sago is neither a palm or a fern, however. It is a primitive conifer, a throwback of ancient proto-pines that inhabited the earth during coal-forming days many millions of years ago. Much of the coal that is used today is the remains of forests of the more numerous and diverse ancestors of these trees. They grew in the Stygian mists eons ago, dying and being covered by swampy material to form beds of vegetable matter that became compressed and heated resulting in the coal, which is primarily carbon.

The sago is a very slow growing plant, putting out a new set of leaves each year, occasionally skipping a year if nutrients available are insufficient. This new growth starts out in the tip center of the trunk as a tan assemblage of feathery small leaf-like fronds about an inch high. These gradually spread apart and the tender green shoots that will turn into the leaf fronds start to unroll. This usually occurs when the weather gets warm and the days get long. These fronds will get to be a foot or two in length depending on whether the plant is in the ground or in a pot. They gradually harden into the mature fronds in about a month's time. If conditions are good for the plant, you can expect twenty or more fronds to unroll simultaneously.

The optimum growing conditions are in a frost-free area with partial shade in midday. The tree likes its soil moist, but not soaking, and is somewhat drought resistant. The soil, whether in pots or in the ground, should be free draining with

a slight acidity to it and lots of humus. Since it is such a slow growing plant, repotting is necessary only when the roots start to get bound in the container. Fertilize in the spring and late fall with a balanced fertilizer, preferably one that has slow-release characteristics.

After the new fronds have established themselves, the old ones will gradually start to turn brown and get shabby. Like everything about this plant, it is a slow process. When the old fronds are too shabby to stand anymore, cut them off close to the trunk to minimize the size of the butt that remains. This removal of the old material will encourage the plant to produce more foliage.



Sago palm in container in the author's garden

As the sago matures it will produce seeds if the conditions are right. The plant is unisexual—the male plant bears an erect terminal cone with pollen sacs on the undersides of the scales, and the female produces ovules on notches of leather-looking feathery sporophylls. The seeds when mature are a bright red and can be found in the brown nest of fluff in the center of the female tree. I have tried to germinate seeds without success. Local growers have been successful when they have planted the newly ripened fruit in pots of porous soil with lots of humus. The tiny plants

will soon emerge if the pots are kept evenly moist in a warm place.

The sago is fairly pest free. It is subject to scale infestation that can be controlled by using a systemic insecticide. If you have the patience, you can wash off the fronds with soapy water quite often, being sure that you rinse all the soap away afterward. If grown indoors, it responds to an occasional washing to clean the leaves. Do this by taking the plant outdoors and hosing it off and, while it is there, soak the soil well to remove salts that have been deposited. □

Robert Horwitz is a retired aerospace engineer who gardens in Point Loma. He grows the plants he writes about. Photograph by the author

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ROSES

VICTORIAN OPULENCE IN MODERN SAN DIEGO

BY DUSTY CRAIG

STEP INTO A CERTAIN backyard in Poway, in mid-April, and the scent engulfs you like a sweet blanket. Over fifty varieties of "Old Garden" roses are in rollicking full bloom, drooping, nodding, swaying and gently rustling in the breeze. What looks like an unkept jungle of leaves, canes, and flowers is actually history you can see, smell and touch. Some of these roses date back five million years, found fossilized in fragments of clay. Others made their appearance when King Arthur was holding his version of the modern business meeting. And because these roses (except species roses) do not reproduce from seed, each and every plant in that Poway garden is a piece of the original plant, the mother plant. Touch a flower of 'York and Lancaster' and you are touching six hundred plus years of history directly. Caress a leaf of 'Sombreuil' and visions of the California forty-niners arise. Sniff the exquisite fragrance of 'Souvenir de la Malmaison' and a faint memory of Empress Josephine touches the mind. History buffs should have such a rose garden for these reasons. A piece of history in the hand, a volatile reminder of how things were in a very different time. Perhaps the great Linnaeus budded a plant of 'White Rose of York' for his own garden. Martha Washington probably enjoyed many fine English and French imports—such as *R. foetida*, *R. banksiae*, 'Agathe', and 'Duchesse d'Angoulême'—in her garden at Mt. Vernon.

Every significant period of history has a least one rose to call its own, such as the War of the Roses with the "Red Rose of Lancaster" or *R. gallica officinalis*, and the "White Rose of York" or *R. alba semi-plena*, 'York and Lancaster' or *R. damascena versicolor*. Even lusty old Nero, Roman emperor extraordinaire, had 'Autumn Damask', *R. paestrum*, to drag into his less-than-glorious limelight by using its fragrant petals to hold outrageous orgies upon. History has looked upon roses very nearly from the beginning of time, and man has found uses for them ever since.

The perfume and medicine industries made very good use of the rose in oil, patent nostrums, fragrant rosewaters and perfumes. The patent medicine industry wasn't far off the mark. One average-sized hip (seed pod) of a rose contains more vitamin C than an average-sized orange. The use of fresh, dried, or preserved roses in hundreds of forms dates from the ancient Persians who are said to have discovered attar of roses and to the ancient Egyptians who preserved roses in dried form in a very early version of potpourri. Later, rose petals were used to make wine, syrups, and jellies, along with being sugared and

used for decorating cakes and candies. Rose hips were dried and crushed to make tea and patent medicines guaranteed to cure digestive upsets. The oils of crushed rose petals were used to manufacture thousands of different fragrance preparations, from soap to facial powder. Today, not much other than the manufacturing process has changed. Rose hips are still marketed as the best source of vitamin C, and in certain specialty stores rose petal jam, rose petal wine, and candied rose petals can still be obtained. Oil of roses is still the number one ingredient in fragrance



Rosa rugosa rubra (species, ancient)

preparations from candles and incense to shampoos and hand cream. The rose is a symbol of life, health, happiness, romance, and elegance unsurpassed by any other flower.

No treatise on old garden roses would be complete without a few words about David Austin and the Austin English roses. Mr. Austin decided nearly forty years ago that there was a need for an old-fashioned type rose that bloomed like a hybrid tea without needing all the fuss of the same. So he invented the Austin English roses, starting with 'Constance Spry' in 1961. The Austin roses combined all the best of both worlds—the fragrance, hardiness, disease resistance, and wonderfully charming blooms of the old garden roses with the free blooming habit and extended color range of the modern hybrid teas. Today, there are over one hundred Austin roses in cultivation, some of which have yet to reach the US. Some of the finest

include the bright yellow 'Graham Thomas', the lovely white 'Dove', the dark and brooding 'Othello', and the snappy pink 'Gertrude Jekyll'. They come in all sizes and colors to fit almost any garden plan.

GROWING "OLD GARDEN ROSES" IN SAN DIEGO

San Diego has perhaps the nearest to a perfect rose-growing climate in all the United States. Mild winters mean nearly year-round flowering if wanted, no protective coverings, digging up and storing in the basement for the winter, and die-back problems. It also means wintering over of fungus spores, and plants that burn-out earlier. Little of this applies to old garden roses. Many old garden roses are extremely hardy and disease free. (There is a rose native to the Arctic Circle.)

They don't require pampering, spraying, pruning, water or feeds that modern hybrid teas, grandifloras, floribundas, and miniatures require. They do require far more room and a tolerance for sporadic bloom cycles or once-a-year blooming. They lend themselves very well to an organic garden, such as the Poway garden of the author. Using only organic fertilizers such as Spray-N-Grow, alfalfa pellets, steer and chicken manure, and fish emulsion, both the soil and the roses thrive, as do the good bugs and birds that are used to keep the bad bugs in check. The roses release their true fragrance, untainted by faint chemical smells.

Watering is best done by drip irrigation for larger gardens and hand watering in smaller gardens. Established old garden roses need some water in the hottest parts of the summer and no water at all during the rainy season. Some species roses, such as *R. rugosa* and its hybrids, need little water at all once established. Many rugosas are native to arid regions and seacoasts, making them tolerant of salt air as well.

About the only type of old garden rose that doesn't do too well here is the gallica. Gallicas require some winter chilling to be at their best bloom and San Diego just doesn't get cold enough for them. Some gallicas that originated in warmer climes will do quite well, but others, such as 'Superb Tuscan' and 'Tuscany', have few blooms and sparse foliage. Noisettes, chinas and teas do very well in San Diego, being very tender and in need of great warmth to be at their best. The hybrid perpetuals, damasks, and hybrid musks are all good choices for a San Diego garden, the hybrid musks especially for their versatility. They will grow well in partial to near-full shade and bloom year-round besides being fairly drought-tolerant once established.

There are many mail order sources for old roses. Also,



Old Rose Garden at two years old

you will find some bare-root old garden roses at your local garden center in early spring—check around for best selection.

The best way to determine which old garden roses to grow is to see them growing and blooming. There is an informal Heritage Rose Group in San Diego. Contact Mary Ann Olsen at 272-0357 for information. To see the roses in action, the best time of year is the month of April.

The author's garden in Poway is open year round for viewing at all stages of growth. Call 486-4339 to arrange private tours. There is no cost for tours.

Dusty Craig has been growing roses since moving into the Poway area in 1985. Finding that she had less and less time for spraying costly and potentially harmful chemicals gave her the impetus to become a totally organic gardener. In November of 1994, she became a fully accredited horticultural judge for the American Rose Society.

Photographs by Dale Craig.

THE WORST CHOICES IN POWAY:

- VARIGATA DI BOLOGNA (rust and mildew)
- BARON GIROD DE L'AIN (mildew, rust, weak plant)
- DUCHESSE D'ANGOULEME (gopher dodder)
- CL. ETOILE DE HOLLANDE (mildew)
- AUSTRIAN COPPER (blackspot and mildew)

THE FOLLOWING SECTION IS a beginning of a list of the old garden roses grown in the Poway garden of the author. (Ed. Note: Poway is inland with rare morning/evening fog, relatively hot summers and occasional winter chilling.) Future issues will continue the list; this is not a complete listing of those

beginning "A.H."]

These are completely organically grown with absolutely no chemical sprays of any sort, nor any disease control other than general cleanup of fallen leaves and removal of deadwood. The majority of them were planted in January of 1986 with the hybrid musks going in around December of 1992. The reference to "Dowager" or "Victorian" class refers to showing them in American Rose Society sanctioned rose shows. Dowagers are varieties introduced before 1867; Victorians between 1867 and 1930. The year of introduction of the first hybrid tea, 'La France', was 1867.

'ARCHDUKE CHARLES': China, 1840, Dowager class. 6' x 4'. Nice tea fragrance with undertones of citrus. Easy to grow, but needs support if allowed to grow large. Flowers 3" in clusters of 4-8 and singles. Very double. Ivory pink in the centre, darkening to rich carmine pink on the outer petals as the bloom ages. Can mildew a bit in the late spring and early fall. Matte green foliage. Blooming starts around late February and goes through December, with the best bloom being the first in the spring. Blooms will ball and rot in wet weather. Few thorns. Yearly removal of deadwood and light shaping done after final bloom in December with season long deadheading a good idea for increased bloom production throughout the season. Takes about one season to become established. Sets few hips.

'ARRILLAGA': Hybrid Perpetual, 1929, Victorian class. 10'x8' or more. HUGE!! Not only the blooms, thorns and leaves, but the canes too. Strong, stiff canes over 1.5" in diameter shoot skyward clothed in medium green



'York and Lancaster', prior to 1629

'BARONNE PREVOST': Hybrid perpetual, 1842, Dowager class. 8"x5'. Very thorny. One of the earliest of the class to be introduced, and one of the best. Big, brawny plant with medium green foliage that can mildew a bit. Large, flat, heavily fragrant cerise pink blooms absolutely packed with hundreds of petals. Puts on a great spring show, then has intermittent blooms throughout the season. Responds very well to pegging. Deadwood removal, deadheading and light shaping are all that is needed. Takes about 3 seasons to become fully established. Sets a good crop of large red-orange hips.

'HANSA': Hybrid rugosa, 1905, Victorian class. 4'x5'. An unusual colour sets this member of the drought tolerant and disease free member of the rugosa family apart from its brethren. Vivid neon purple double blooms are intensely fragrant. Opens to show bright yellow stamens. Mid-green, semi-glossy foliage. Prickly, long arching canes. Good all season bloom; blooms on old wood, so shape carefully. Sets few hips.



'Mme. Isaac Pereire', 1881

HOW I BECAME A CALIFORNIA GARDENER

By GINA WRIGHT

I GREW UP IN London and our gardens were small, although my mother, always a hopeful gardener, plowed her way through seed and bulb catalogues as if planning for some huge country estate. In 1940, to avoid being evacuated to America (the country that would eventually become my home) I joined the Women's Land Army and was sent, with several other girls, to work in the gardens of Blenheim Palace. I was sixteen. We were to replace the young gardeners who had been drafted into the army. The remaining old gardeners, in their thirties and forties, viewed our arrival with some dismay, and they were right to do so. On my first day I planted several rows of strawberries upside down. Never mind, I was in heaven. The smell of freshly turned earth, the cozy warmth of the greenhouses (a wonderful refuge on a freezing winter day), and the sight of peaches ripening on a mellow brick wall made me realize that I could never live happily without a garden.

After World War II, I married and came to live in America. Our first garden was in Ohio and except for growing golden bantam corn—that I had never even eaten, let alone grown—the

gardening was not so very different from that in England. There were seasons: a spring, albeit a little longer and hotter than in England, and an autumn when one put the garden to bed in preparation for the long cold winter.

In 1963, we moved to Southern California and gardening took on a very different complexion. As far as I could tell there were no seasons. (I since have learned differently.) One was as concerned about aphids, mildew and rust on Christmas Eve as one was in the spring. Where was that lovely snowfall that closed down the garden and made it possible for one to concentrate on filling Christmas stockings and stuffing the turkey? Also, we now had two small children, a large black labrador, several cats, hamsters, a jungle gym, a basketball hoop, and a front lawn that soon became the local football field. Any one of these things was enough to deter even the

most ardent gardener. I simply had to bide my time until the glorious day when the children were grown and the garden was finally mine.

When one has longed and planned for something for many years, it is quite a challenge to realize suddenly that the light has turned green and that there is absolutely no reason not to go out and make the garden of one's dreams. But where to start and what to plant? My hope always had been to make an English garden although I had to face the fact that an average size corner lot in La Jolla does not really lend itself to huge perennial borders, grand vistas, bog gardens, and orchards. Old roses have been the one constant in the garden—I love them and they do well here. As for my English garden, I have grown all the

English things, including gigantic hollyhocks, delphiniums, and foxgloves, but I came back from England last summer deciding to make a complete change. There is no doubt in my mind that English flowers do better in a milder habitat. The English climate—scorned by most of the world, the English included—is perfect for growing flowers. The hollyhocks I saw this summer were so



much more luscious and much less strident looking than the ones I have grown here from the very same seeds. I am sure it can be done and I have seen some wonderful gardens in this area growing all the things I love, but either I don't use enough water or my garden gets more than its fair share of blazing sun. Whatever the reason, my purely English garden didn't work. I am now setting my sight on a Mediterranean look, using all the gray things that I can lay my hands on: santolina, artemesia, yarrow, many different lavenders and sages, dianthus, rosemary, and Queen Anne's lace. I am a long way from cypress trees, clipped box hedges, and courtyards with cool fountains. But, I do have formally clipped citrus trees—shaped for appearance rather than fruit—in large terra cotta pots and camellias, a fig tree, and an ancient olive adds to what, I think, is beginning to have a



Mediterranean aspect. Of course, one must have some color and I have scattered numerous poppy seeds and planted up some large pots.

As you can see I have made mistakes and many false starts over the years. I can't believe that Vita Sackville-West had to dig up, replant, and start again at Sissinghurst quite as often as I have had to do in Southern California. I comfort myself with the thought that, though she was an amazing gardener, she could never have the glorious winter show that we can put on here.

OLD ROSES THAT I GROW IN LA JOLLA

Some of my favorite old roses are 'Souvenir de la Malmaison,' 'Mme. Isaac Pereire,' 'Mme. Alfred Carrière,' 'La Reine Victoria,' and her daughter, 'Mme. Pierre Oger,' along with 'Frau Karl Druschki,' 'Maiden's Blush,' and 'Sombreuil.' I have not done uniformly well with the David Austin roses—old roses brought up to date—but I shall keep on trying because when they work they are quite lovely; 'Mary Webb' has performed beautifully. My most prolific rose, 'New Dawn,' is not an oldie but it does magnificently here and almost covers the entire front of our house.

My greatest rose mistake was to plant a 'Kiftgate'; it does so well in both my sisters' gardens in England, climbing into trees, cascading over walls, and scenting the air around. Of course, I wanted one, too, and I planted it to grow over a cottage we have in the back garden, thinking to delight my husband who has his study there. In its second year we returned home after an absence of four months and could hardly find the cottage buried under the 'Kiftgate.' Trying to hack his way to the front door my husband tore a piece out of his finger and ended up in the emergency room of the local hospital. Clearly the 'Kiftgate' had to go. If only I had taken

notice of Peter Beales, who in *Classic Roses*, talks of 'Kiftgate's effectiveness but "only when its enthusiasm can be left unchecked." □

Gina Wright was born in a small village near Oxford, England, but grew up in London. She has lived and gardened in La Jolla since 1963. She is a regular contributor to *San Diego Decorating*.

Photographs of her gardens by the author

A WATER-WISE PUBLIC GARDEN

(continued from page 134)

[Design on page 144]

commonly used landscape plants are located, daylilies, Indian hawthorne, mock orange, lily of the Nile, natal plum, African mallow, and ivy geranium. The low-water-use zone is the largest area of the garden, approximately one-half of the entire area. The most difficult part of designing this area was choosing a select few from such a vast plant palette.

The native area comprises the fourth hydro-zone. Although native plants are scattered throughout the low-water-use zone, this area was planted primarily with natives due to the existing Torrey pine, live oak, *Baccharis* and ceanothus. A few compatible exotics were included such as *Grevillea* 'Bronze Rambler.'

As with all great gardens, the Water-Wise Garden will be constantly changing as we learn which plants do best in which hydro-zone, and which species are deer resistant! By the way, any deer-repellant tricks will be greatly appreciated. Call the number below if you know of drought-tolerant, deer-resistant plants or ways to keep the flower-munching critters away!

If any of you horticultural types out there wish to help out in the garden, please call Betty at 283-6000. We can use plant donations for our sale in October, clerical help, and good old hands-on gardening help, especially in winter as we all know that is the best time for planting and transplanting most drought-tolerant plants.

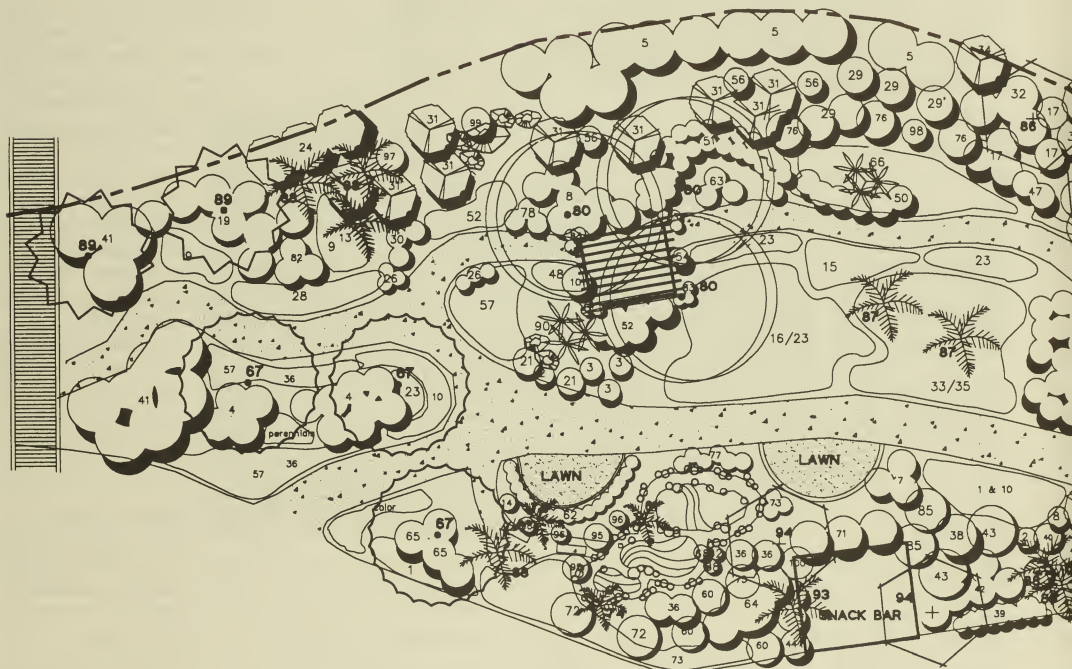
Tours and lectures are scheduled once a month on the second Saturday of the month at 10:00AM. So come to visit the Scripps Garden over and over again to watch the garden evolve and learn the latest water-saving methods and plants.

Pamela Homfelt is Chairperson of the Wild Animal Park Committee of San Diego County Xeriscape Council and an Evergreen Nursery Store Manager, in Del Mar.

Design of garden and original drawing by the Wild Animal Park Committee, computer rendering by Mike Miller.

ELLEN BROWNING SCRIPPS WATER-WISE

1	AGAPANTHUS 'PETER PAN'	DWARF BLUE LILY OF THE NILE	17	COLEONEMA PULCHRUM	PINK BREATH OF HEAVEN
2	ALOE BARBADENSIS V. CHINENSIS	ALOE VAR. CHINENSIS	18	TRICHOSTEMA LANATA	WOOLY BLUE CURLS
3	ALOE STRIATA	CORAL ALOE	19	ELEGANUS PUNGENS	SILVERBERRY
4	ANISODONTEA HYPOMANDARUM	DWARF PINK HIBISCUS	20	GALVESIA SPECIOSA	ISLAND BUSH SNAPDRAGON
5	ARBUS UNEDO 'COMPACTA'	COMPACT STRAWBERRY TREE	21	LYCHNIS CORONARIA	MULLEIN PINK
6	ARCTOSTAPHYLOS 'HOWARD MC MINN'	HOWARD MC MINN MANZANITA	22	FREMONTODENDRON 'CALIFORNIA GLORY'	FLANNEL BUSH
7	CANNA GENERALIS	COMMON CANNA	23	HEMEROCALLIS HYBRIDS	DAYLILIES
8	ARTEMESIA 'POWIS CASTLE'	WORMWOOD	24	HETEROMELES ARBUTIFOLIA	TOYON
9	CORREA 'IVORY BELLS'	WHITE AUSTRALIAN FUCHSIA	25	DASYLIRION LONGISSIMA	MEXICAN GRASS TREE
10	CARISSA 'BOXWOOD BEAUTY'	DWARF NATAL PLUM	26	KNIPHOFIA UVARIA	RED-HOT POKER
11	CEANOETHUS 'CONCHA'	CALIFORNIA LILAC	27	LANTANA 'SPREADING SUNSHINE'	YELLOW LANTANA
12	CEANOETHUS GRISEUS 'LOUIS EDMONDS'	PROSTRATE CALIFORNIA LILAC	28	LANTANA MONTEVIDENSIS	PURPLE TRAILING LANTANA
13	CHAMAEROPS HUMILIS	MEDITERRANEAN FAN PALM	29	PHORMIUM 'BRONZE BABY'	HYBRID NEW ZEALAND FLAX
14	SIMPLICITY ROSE	ROSE HYBRID	30	BACCHARIS 'TWIN PEAKS'	COYOTE BUSH
15	CISTUS LADANIFER	CRIMSON-SPOT ROCKROSE	31	LEPTOSPERMUM SCOPARIUM 'RUBY GLOW'	RED NEW ZEALAND TEA TREE
16	CISTUS PURPUREUS	ORCHID ROCKROSE			



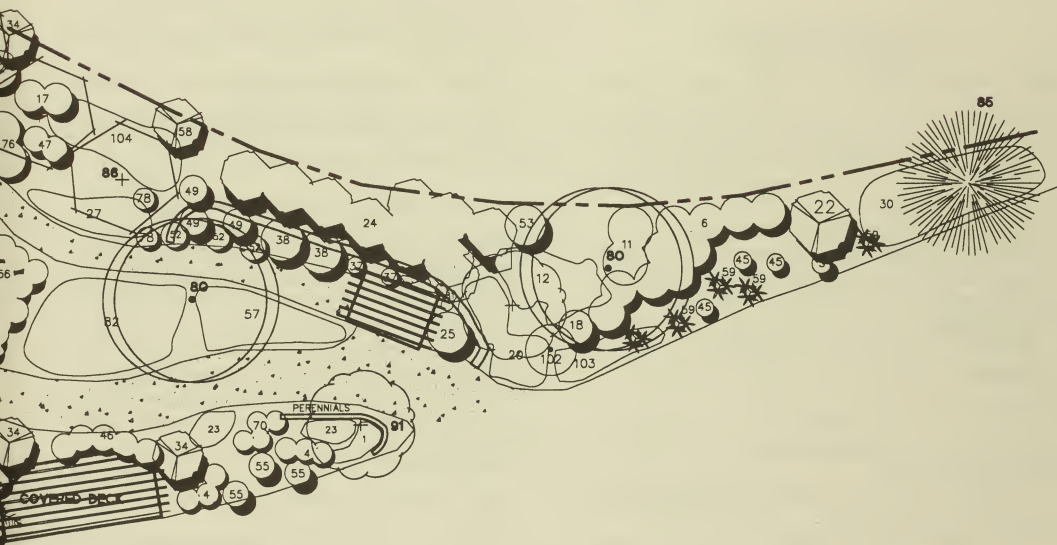
62	CUPHEA HYSSOPIFOLIA	FALSE HEATHER	77	CANNA 'WISLEY DWARF'	DWARF CANNA
63	CAULANUS HOOKERI		78	ACHILLEA HYBRIDS	YARROW
64	DICKSONIA ANTARCTICA	TASMANIAN TREE FERN	79	ASPARAGUS DENSIFLORUS 'MYERS'	MYER'S ASPARAGUS FERN
65	HIBISCUS ROSA-SINENSIS	HIBISCUS	80	QUERCUS AGRIFFOLIA	COAST LINE OAK
66	BEAUCAIRNEA RECURVATA	ELEPHANT FOOT PALM	81	DISTICTIS RIVERSII	ROYAL TRUMPET VINE
67	KOLEUTEUTIA PANICULATA	GOLDENRAIN TREE	82	PELAGONUM TOMENTOSUM	PEPPERMINT SCENTED GERANIUM
68	WASHINGTONIA ROBUSTA	MEXICAN FAN PALM	83	WISTERIA SINENSIS	CHINESE WISTERIA
69	LOROPETALUM CHINENSIS RUBRUM	RAZZELBERRI FRINGE FLOWER	84	PINUS TORREYANA	TORREY PINE
70	PITOSPORUM TOBIRA 'WHEELER'S DWARF'	DWARF MOCK ORANGE	85	TECOMA STANS	TECOMA
71	CALLIANDRA INEQUILATERA	PINK POWDERPUFF	86	BRACHYCHITON POPULNEUS	BOTTLE TREE
72	STRELITZIA NICOLAI	GIANT BIRD OF PARADISE	87	BRACHYCHITON POPULNEUS	MEXICAN BLUE PALM
73	TRACHELOSPERMUM JASMINOIDES	STAR JASMINE	88	BUTIA CAPITATA	PINDO PALM
74	TRACHYCARPUS FORTUNEI	WINDMILL PALM	89	CHORISIA SPECIOSA	SILK FLOSS TREE
75	ZAMIA FURFURACEAE	CARPENTER PALM	90	DRAECAENA DRACO	DRAGON TREE
76	TEUCRIUM FRUTICANS	BUSH GERMANDER			

GARDEN • SAN DIEGO WILD ANIMAL PARK

32	LEPTOSPERMUM SCOPARIUM 'SNOW WHITE' WHITE NEW ZEALAND TEA TREE
33	LIMONIUM PEREZII SEA LAVENDER
34	MAHONIA 'GOLDEN ABUNDANCE' GOLDEN ABUNDANCE BARBERRY
35	NERIUM OLEANDER 'PETITE PINK' DWARF PINK OLEANDER
36	GARDENIA VEITCHII GARDENIA
37	PENNISETUM CUPREUM RUBRUM RED FOUNTAIN GRASS
38	PHORMIUM TENAX 'MAORI CHIEF' HYBRID NEW ZEALAND FLAX
39	PHORMIUM TENAX JACK SPRATT DWARF NEW ZEALAND FLAX
40	PITIOSPORUM TOBIRA 'VARIEGATA' VARIEGATED MOCK ORANGE
41	PRUNUS CAROLINIANA 'COMPACTA' COMPACT CHERRY LAUREL
42	RAPHIOLEPIS INDICA 'SPRINGTIME' PINK INDIAN HAWTHORNE
43	RAPHIOLEPIS INDICA 'MAJESTIC BEAUTY' MAJESTIC BEAUTY HAWTHORNE
44	CAMELLIA JAPONICA CAMELLIA
45	RIBES VIBURNIFOLIUM EVERGREEN CURRANT
46	ROSMARINUS OFFICINALIS 'TUSCAN BLUE' TUSCAN BLUE ROSEMARY

47	SALVIA CLEVELANDII
48	SALVIA GREGGII
49	SALVIA LEUCANTHA
50	SANTOLINA CHAMAECYPARISSUS
51	SANTOLINA VIRENS
52	SALVIA GREGGII 'FURMAN'S RED'
53	GREVILLIA 'BRONZE RAMBLER'
54	PHLOMIS FRUTICOSA 'GRANDE VERDE'
55	STRELITZIA REGINAE
56	TAGETES LEMMONII
57	VERBENA PERUVIANA
58	PLUMBAGO 'ROYAL CAPE'
59	YUCCA WHIPPLEI
60	AZALEA 'ALASKA'
61	CYCAS REVOLUTA

CLEVELAND SAGE
AUTUMN SAGE
MEXICAN BUSH SAGE
LAVENDER COTTON
GREEN SANTOLINA
AUTUMN SAGE
JERUSALEM SAGE
BIRD OF PARADISE
LEMONGOLD
VERBENA
ROYAL CAPE PLUMBAGO
OUR LORD'S CANDLE
ALASKA AZALEA
SAGO PALM



91	LAGERSTROEMIA INDICA
92	PHOENIX CANARIENSIS
93	PHOENIX RECLINATA
94	BRACHYCHITON ACERIFOLIUS
95	TIBUCHINA URVILLEANA
96	HIBISCUS 'SANTANA'
97	STENOCERUS MARGINATUS
98	OPUNTIA 'SANTA RITA'
99	CRASSULA OVATA 'CHRISTMAS CHEER'
100	DAHLIA IMPERIALIS
101	AGAVE VILMORINIANA
102	ALOE BAINESII
103	MIMULUS VARIETIES

GRAPE MYRTLE
CANARY ISLAND PALM
SENEGAL DATE PALM
AUSTRALIAN FLAME TREE
PRINCESS FLOWER
SANTANA HIBISCUS

LAVENDER PRICKLY PEAR CACTUS
HYBRID JADE PLANT
TREE DAHLIA
OCTOPUS AGAVE
BAINES' TREE ALOE
MONKEY FLOWER

DESIGNED AND DRAWN BY THE WILD ANIMAL PARK COMMITTEE OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY XERISCAPE COUNCIL, MEMBERS: PAMELA HOMFELT, PAUL DEMARTINI, STEVE SHERMAN, AND SCOTT SANDELL
COMPUTER RENDERING BY MIKE MILLER



Now is the Time . . .

A CULTURAL CALENDAR OF CARE FROM OUR
AFFILIATES, UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
AND CALIFORNIA GARDEN STAFF

AFRICAN VIOLETS

by Helen LaGamma

NOW IS THE TIME

TO KEEP violets well groomed.

TO KEEP the area clean. Continue to wipe down the growing area with mild solution of lysol and water.

TO SPRAY the leaves with warm water; cool water will chill the plants.

TO LEAVE air space between the plants.

TO KEEP pans of wet pebbles among the plants for added humidity; very important during hot weather.

TO KEEP violets well groomed — have clean growing area.

TO USE cool light tubes — keep plants out of direct sunlight.

BEGONIAS

by Margaret Lee

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FEED tuberous begonias in September as long as the leaves remain green.

TO START withholding water from the tuberous variety in October and do not feed them again.

TO GIVE a final feeding of the year to your regular begonias in October, unless you have fed all year with a balanced fertilizer.

TO TAKE cuttings and plant them, to increase your collection and share.

BONSAI

by Dr. Herbert Markowitz

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ADJUST watering schedule to the variable weather. Shallow pots may require two or three daily waterings on hot, dry, windy days.

TO TRANSPLANT wisteria if you want blossoms next spring.

TO REPOT quince, olives, and podocarpus.

TO MOVE deciduous trees to cool, shaded areas if you live in Southern California, so they will not sprout any new growth.

TO FERTILIZE only lightly or not at all in October if you fertilized in September.

TO WAIT until spring for any major transplanting.

BROMELIADS

by Mary Siemers

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER plants according to the weather (temperature), but do not allow the soil to become soggy.

TO CUT new offshoots (pups) and pot them while weather is still warm. Offshoots must be 1/3 to 1/2 the size of the mother plant.

TO KEEP plants clean by cutting spent blooms and dead leaves.

TO REPOT plants that need larger pots (use next size larger).

TO ALWAYS USE new potting mix, making sure it is one that allows fast drainage.

CACTI & SUCCULENTS

by Joseph A. Betzler

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATCH plants and fertilize less as they go dormant. The winter growers need more fertilizer and water as they start to grow.

TO MAINTAIN the growth pattern of the plant. Look for signs of growth as the season changes.

TO WATCH weather situations as changes can occur very fast in our area. Be sure to protect from the hot days that still may occur.

TO TRANSPLANT actively growing seedlings and rooted cuttings now so they can get established before winter.

TO CLEAN the area where plants are grown.

TO PREVENT insect pests from building into major problems. Look at your plants carefully and check for mealybugs, mites, aphids, and snails; treat appropriately.

CAMELLIAS

by E. C. (Gene) Snooks

NOW IS THE TIME

TO MAINTAIN a regular watering program during bud development.

TO SPRAY for bud mites or spider mites with kelthane (available again in a new formula) or similar miticide.

TO START or continue to disbud for better blooms, leaving one bud per cluster or one bud per branch for show quality blooms.

TO FERTILIZE with 0-10-10, 2-10-10, or similar low nitrogen fertilizer for best bloom development.

TO APPLY iron and zinc supplement, if indicated by pale foliage with darker green veins.

TO APPLY gibberellic acid for earlier blooms. Buds should open in about two months.

DAHLIAS

by Abe Janzen

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CLEAN up old leaves and stalks, preparing for fall and winter.

TO SPRAY to prevent mildew and spider mites.

TO MAINTAIN a regular watering program until the first of October, then cut down watering gradually.

TO FEED with potash to promote good root growth. It also helps to keep plants healthier during the winter.

EPIPHYLLUMS

Epiphyllum Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PROTECT plants from exposure to direct sunlight.

TO SPRAY-Mist to provide moisture during warm spells and keep stems clean and free of dust. Spraying of foliage occasionally can be beneficial.

TO PREVENT soil from completely drying out.

TO PROTECT new growth from wind damage; stake plants and carefully tie to a trellis.

TO CHECK for snails and slugs; a few granules of Sluggeta at the base of the plant are often effective and leave little to no residue.

TO GIVE plants a final feeding for fall — use a balanced fertilizer before they become semi-dormant.

FERNS

by Ray Sodomka

NOW IS THE TIME

TO REMOVE dead fronds.

TO PLANT spores of all varieties.

TO PROTECT from hot sun, but give maximum light.

TO WATER and maintain humidity by keeping surrounding areas damp.

TO FERTILIZE once with high nitrogen fertilizer.

TO CHECK for aphids, mealy bugs and scale; if present use Malathion-50.

TO KEEP snails, pill bugs and slugs under control use methaldehyde granules.

FUCHSIAS

by William Selby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PICK off spent blooms and seed pods.

TO MAINTAIN humidity by keeping areas sprayed. Be careful not to overwater, but mist during hot, dry, windy days. It is best to water in the early morning, or in the cool of evening.

TO CONTINUE fertilizing for fall and winter blooms.

TO SPRAY as required for insect control. Be sure to wet the underside of leaves, the hiding place for egg laying.

TO MAKE cuttings while removing leggy growth — use the tender tips. October is a better month to propagate new plants.

TO KEEP cuttings in a cool place for four to six days; keep moist but not wet or soggy.

GERANIUMS (Pelargoniums)

by Carol Roller

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER thoroughly when plants become somewhat dry. Allow the excess water to drain away. Water in advance of a Santa Ana. Keep foliage as dry as possible.

TO CONTINUE feeding a soluble, balanced fertilizer with micronutrients. Use less than the recommended amount, but apply as often as necessary to avoid nutritional deficiencies.

TO CONTINUE a pest control and disease prevention program using all products according to the manufacturers' instructions.

TO BEGIN pruning, even if plants are still blooming. On regals, scented and similar types, at least one green leaf should be left on each stem being cut back.

TO MAKE cuttings from prunings. Trim and insert into a moistened, sterile medium. Shelter cuttings from extreme weather.

TO KEEP all the plants tidy by removing faded flowers and discolored leaves.

TO CONTINUE to rotate plants on a regular basis in order to keep them well-shaded.

GREEN THUMB

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FEED well established shrubs with a balanced fertilizer; water thoroughly.

TO PREPARE bulb beds; add humus. Buy early bulbs and place in refrigerator for a few weeks before planting.

TO PLANT bulbs of calla, freesia, scilla, and watsonia in Sept. Other bulbs, such as anemone, daffodil, ixia, and ranunculus can be planted in Oct.

TO MULCH acid-loving plants.

TO DUST and stake chrysanthemums, but do not pinch tips any more; disbud for larger blooms.

TO DIVIDE the daylilies, agapanthus, Shasta daisies and belladonna lilies after blooming.

IRIS

by Iris Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CLEAN beds and discard old fans and debris.

TO DIVIDE and plant clumps of bearded iris.

TO FEED established tall bearded that are not being divided.

TO PLANT beardless iris: spuria, Siberian, Louisiana, and Japanese varieties. Louisiana and Japanese are grown in pots, pools or in swampy conditions.

TO PLANT Dutch irises in October for spring bloom.

ORCHIDS

by Charles Fouquette

NOW IS THE TIME

TO STAY alert for Santa Ana winds with their high heat and low humidity. Frequent misting during this

debilitating period will help plants, including orchids. **TO START** *Nobile Dendrobiums* on a 0-10-10 diluted fertilizer program. Be sure to leach the traces of other fertilizers from the pot. When the leaves drop from your *Nobile Dendrobium*, stop fertilizing and watering — just keep the pot damp over winter and protect from total freeze. When the new leaves start in spring, after plants flower, resume watering.

TO WATCH *Paphiopedilums* during hot dry days. Remember this is a transition period (we may see a rapid decline in warm weather in October). *Paphiopedilums* and other non-bulbous orchids have no water storage capacities and must be misted more at this time than at any other.

TO WATCH for snails and slugs — see your local nursery person for the latest in pest control. Keep a sharp watch for red spider — they grow and multiply during this time of year. When spraying, get under the leaves — that's where they congregate. Use insecticides that are non-petroleum based. Again, see your nursery person for proper application.

TO MIST seedlings and other plants early in the morning to prevent shock of cold water on warm leaves. Also, when watering your *Phalaenopsis*, try to water in the early part of the day. *Phalaenopsis* and other Vandaceous orchids can take a great amount of light if the leaves are cooled by generous air movement to take the heat away from the hot leaves. Cold water on warm leaves will cause tissue to break down and die back.

TO SHUT down the swamp cooler when the weather cools at the end of October. Drain the bottom and unplug the unit. Oil the motor and the oil cups on the fan. Patch any holes in the bottom with a patching compound. Check the water pump and cover for the winter.

ROSES

by Marianne Truby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ENCOURAGE your rose bushes to produce the glorious blooms they are capable of during the fall months and on into the holiday season. Given consistent loving care your fall roses can be the most beautiful of the growing season.

TO CONTINUE clean-up of bushes started in late August into the first week of September. Your bushes are frequently leggy and/or have produced rose hips during the summer. Remove about a third of the canes, eliminate twiggy growth but leave on foliage (do not strip leaves as we do in January). The lower you cut the longer time to produce new blooms. Paint cuts size of pencil or larger with white glue to deter borers

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that are active at this time of the year.

TO MULCH clean beds to keep weeds under control and to feed on alternate weeks with organics such as blood meal, cottonseed, fish and/or kelp meal. The warm soil and the organics will work wonders for your bushes.

TO APPLY iron chelate, zinc and epsom salts each month and to disbud daily to produce large blooms and deep green foliage.

TO CONTROL mildew by spraying weekly for mildew control following manufacturers directions.

TO BE ALERT for unusual weather conditions. When Santa Ana winds occur maintain moisture level, keep plant foliage clean by washing off bushes in early morning. Until fall rains come water, water, water!

TO TRY propagating with cuttings! To repot rootbound potted roses in late October. To visit fall flower shows, assess your existing roses for possible replacement.

NATIVES

by Jeanine De Hart

NOW IS THE TIME

TO INCREASE watering as days get shorter and cooler. By October, deep watering can be resumed as the root system of the natives grow over the winter.

TO FIND more native plants as nurseries learn how to keep them healthy in cans. The deep root system that makes them so drought tolerant makes it difficult to get them up to size without being badly rootbound. Some can be kept in the cans in the shade with no difficulty, but will perish rapidly in full sun. The black plastic cans transmit a lot of heat when the can is as dry as some natives like to be. If you wish to leave the can in the sun to get it accustomed to its planting spot, put the entire can in another empty can. This will keep the roots cooler.

TO BE SURE the ground is prepared for the planting that you do in October.

TO FERTILIZE with a weak feeding, about 1/2 of the recommended dose, for older plants is fine. None for newly planted natives.

TO REMOVE weeds. They rob the soil of valuable nutrients as well as looking bad. Natives cannot compete with weeds.

FRUIT TREES AND VINES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension
NOW IS THE TIME

TO CONTINUE periodic, thorough irrigation to maintain adequate soil moisture until winter rains begin.

TO OPERATE drip irrigation systems until we

receive at least two inches of rain to prevent salt injury.

TO PRUNE out dead and severely damaged shoots of deciduous trees before foliage drops.

TO COVER maturing grape clusters with paper bags (poke small holes in the bags for ventilation) to protect maturing fruit from yellow jackets and birds.

TO CHECK on maturity of kiwi fruit. Maturity is measured by a change in seed color from white to brown or black. Pick large fruit first, but harvest before fruit softens.

VEGETABLES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension
NOW IS THE TIME

TO REMOVE warm-season vegetables badly damaged by pests or diseases and those that are past their prime production period.

TO PREPARE soil for planting cool-season vegetables by incorporating composted organic matter and a pre-plant fertilizer high in phosphorus. Begin planting cool-season vegetables: broccoli, Brussels sprouts, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, endive, fava beans, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, parsley, peas, potatoes (white), spinach, and turnips.

TO BUY seed of short-day onions like 'Grano', 'Granex', and 'Crystal Wax', as well as garlic cloves to plant in November for bulb production next summer. Onion sets can be planted for a quick crop of green onions but not for bulbs.

TO DIG sweet potatoes before any danger of frost. Be careful not to bruise roots. Dry thoroughly (one to two weeks), wrap in newspaper and store close to 60°F.

NOW IS ONE OF THE BETTER TIMES IN FROST-FREE AREAS

TO PUT IN TRANSPLANTS OF: aster, baby's breath, canterbury bell, carnation, cineraria, daisy (African, Shasta, English), delphinium, Chinese forget-me-not, hollyhock, lobelia (in Sept.), pot marigold (*Calendula officinalis*), fairy primrose (*Primula malacoides*), snapdragon, stock (*Matthiola incana*), sand verbena (*Abronia umbellata*), ranunculus, sweet william, pansy and viola.

TO PUT IN SEEDS OF: alysium, baby blue eyes, bachelor's button, African daisy, candytuft, columbine, gloriosa daisy (in Oct.) forget-me-not, Chinese forget-me-not, gazania, honesty, kale (ornamental), larkspur, lavender, lupine (in Oct.), poppy (California, Iceland, and Shirley), Virginia stock (*Malcolmia maritima*), sweet peas, and wildflowers. (List by J. Coleman derived partially from Cooperative Extension publications.)

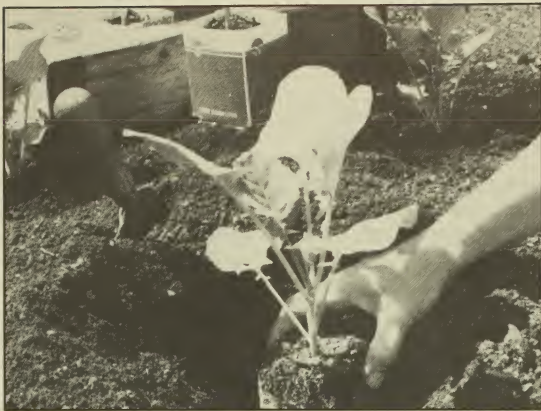
BROCCOLI

by BARBARA S. JONES

BROCCOLI IS A COLE crop, and this is the season to plant cool-weather vegetables in Southern California. The best growing period is when the temperature falls within the range of a low of 40°F. to a high of 65°F.

Before planting the soil should be enriched with 3 or 4 inches of well-rotted manure dug in a spade depth. Broccoli seeds do not germinate well if planted into the open ground so they should be started in flats or in planting pots. Seedlings are available now at the local nurseries. Usually they have crooked, weak stems so plant them deep enough so they stand up straight. You may have to cut off the bottom leaves to cover the crooked part, but that's OK because broccoli forms roots along the stem. Place them about a foot apart. These new seedlings may be chomped off by cutworms or snails, so use cutoff sections of milk cartons to protect them until they are sturdier. We often get Santa Anas in the fall, and these collars will help to protect the plants from hot winds and sun. It takes 50 to 65 days for the plant to get to eating stage. This seems like a long time, but lettuce and radishes mature quickly and can be grown and harvested between the plants. Broccoli needs regular watering and to grow well will need a tablespoon of fertilizer high in nitrogen worked in around each plant every three weeks.

The flower heads are the part we eat. A mature head when it is dark green and firm should be cut with 4-6



Broccoli seedlings being set out.

that the container be at least 12 inches deep and 12 inches wide and hold 5 gallons of soil. This size container will hold two plants. Soil in containers dries out quickly, so it should be checked daily about an inch down. The soil must have good drainage, so a layer of pebbles in the bottom of the container will keep it from becoming too

wet. Container grown plants should be fertilized weekly with a water soluble 10-10-10 fertilizer.

Broccoli is now considered a wonder-food. One-half cup provides more Vitamin C than an orange. It is also high in Vitamin A, the B vitamins, calcium, phosphorus, and iron. It is high in fiber. A medium stalk contains seven grams of fiber. Best of all a one-half cup serving contains 25 calories. Not only that, it tastes good. □

The pictures in this article were taken by the National Garden Bureau.

Barbara Jones is a long-time gardener in the San Diego area.



Broccoli bud ready for harvesting.



THE GARDENS AT FILOLI

Timmy Gallagher

San Francisco, Pomegranate Art Books, 1994, 128 pages, 104 color photos, 9" x 11", hardcover, \$29.95

Filoli is a 654 acre estate at Woodside, 30 miles south of San Francisco. It was the home of the family of William Bowers Bourne II from 1915 to 1937, then was bought by William P. and Lurline B. Roth. Mrs. Roth bequeathed the estate—gardens, house, and furniture—to the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1985. The text of this elegant book is by horticulturist Timmy Gallagher, the photos by Christopher McMahon, selected from hundreds that he took while assistant superintendent of the estate.

Only 27 acres of Filoli are landscaped. Each season brings special and spectacular beauty to the gardens. Spring has a wealth of wisteria, hundreds of blooming camellias, dozens of Japanese weeping cherries, thousands of tulips and daffodils, and beginning in May, scores of lustrous roses. Summer stars are magnolias, begonias, petunias, zinnias, and masses of 'Heavenly Blue' morning glories. The fall is colored by Virginia creeper, the red of Japanese maple, and the yellow gold of sacred ginkgo. During the brief California winter, after leaves have fallen, the architecture of the gardens is revealed, sometimes outlined in crystalline frost.

Docent-led tours of home and garden as well as of Filoli's undeveloped back country are offered to sixty thousand yearly visitors. For opening times, events, and fees call 415-364-2880. And consider this lovely book as an introduction to, and a memento of, delightful Filoli. To order the book contact Christopher McMahon at 2995 Woodside Rd., #400-263, Woodside CA 94062. Please include \$1.65 California sales tax.

Reviewed by Jane Field Alexander

SMALL GARDENS WITH STYLE

Jill Billington

New York, Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., 1995, 128 pages, 80 color photos, 40 B&W illustrations, 7½" x 9¾", hardcover, \$24.95

At first this appears to be just another book about garden design; but the introduction, which is essential reading, sets the tone for this study by an authoritative and knowledgeable writer. Jill Billington is a British designer who has won many awards. She treats her subject with common sense, but she cares very much about what she is doing and her ideas deserve attention.

Her book is well illustrated with good color photos and many plans, all effectively organized. Some designs feature before-and-after photos, which strengthen the theme of this

book. Although there is emphasis on small-sized gardens, owners of larger areas will learn some useful techniques from these pages, and gardeners faced with neglected or brand-new plots can feel inspired and encouraged. Here there is advice on the use of color, on variations in levels, and on attention to perspective, and there is intriguing information about devices such as mirrors, topiary and patterned brickwork.

For San Diego gardeners, and others who live in dry climates, these designs would need some adaptation. Constraints and practicalities are discussed in general terms in the introduction, and the text of the book shows us the author's strong dedication to beauty in natural elements. She shares with her readers her personal philosophy of gardening. This book would be a welcome addition to any library of books on garden design.

Reviewed by Elsie M. Topham

FLOWERING PLANTS OF THE GAMBIA

Michael Jones

Rotterdam, A. A. Balkema, 1994, 134 pages, 160 color photos, 6½" x 9½", softcover, \$40.00

Gambia is one of the smallest African countries, surrounded by Senegal except for the coastal strip, and is dominated by the Gambia River. The author's aim is to stimulate interest in the flowering plants of the area and to provide an identification guide. He provides botanical information as well as habitat distribution and ethnobotany on 333 native and naturalized plants. Half are illustrated with excellent color photos. This book will please those with an unbounded interest in plants.

Reviewed by R. Cox

OLD-FASHIONED ROSES

Trevor Griffiths

North Pomfret, VT., Trafalgar Square Publ., 1995, 114 pages, 151 color photos, 8¼" x 10¼", softcover, \$17.95

This book is an alphabetical listing of the author's favorite old roses. The wonderfully colored photos make this offering of special interest to those anxious to become acquainted with and to identify old roses. The descriptions of the growth habits are apparently based on their habits in New Zealand. The heights are given in meters. Old rose enthusiasts may wish to include this in their collection.

Reviewed by Marianne Truby

ELIZABETH AND HER GERMAN GARDEN

Elizabeth von Arnim

London, Virago Press, 1994, 207 pages, 5" x 7¾", softcover, \$10.95

It's not easy to get your hands on this book, but following an insatiable curiosity I tracked it down. How could anyone resist Elizabeth—an eighteen-year-old English girl who was courted and married by a German count and taken off to his country estate in turn of the century Prussia? Calling her children the "April, May, and June babies" and referring to her husband as "the Man of Wrath," Elizabeth turned her back on a stifling society and found happiness in gardening. In an age when her visions of acres of rosebushes and wildflowers, and meadows and bosques could only be translated into reality by surly and ignorant gardeners, the reader shares Elizabeth's frustrations and her growing passion for creating beauty.

This true story was originally published in 1898 and is a brief part of the life story of the woman who also wrote *Enchanted April*.

You can order this book by calling 1-800-423-4525. Total cost is \$14.70.

Reviewed by Connie Beck

ORCHIDS OF ASIA

Teoh Eng Soon

Portland, Timber Press, 1994, 328 pages, 230 color photos and plates, 20 B&W line drawings, 8" x 11 1/4", hardcover, \$39.95

This book will be greatly valued by many people, orchid growers in the tropics and throughout the world. It contains much practical information concerning cultural matters, and technical information that will be appreciated by orchidists and all those who love flowers.

This book is a work of art. The plain black cover is formal and Dr. Teoh Eng Soon's presentation is also plain and artfully executed. The print is very easy to read, and the orchid photography appears to be two-dimensional. The color photos are a complete joy to see and study, so real and life-like. You can almost smell the flowers.

He includes all phases of orchid culture, plus orchid farming, and a chapter on handling of cut flowers. As a member of the medical profession he also tells of their use in medicine and science.

Reviewed by Ardell O. Marlin

THE CONTAINER GARDEN: A Practical Guide to Planning & Planting

Tomasina Tarling

New York, Sterling Publishing Co., 1995, 128 pages, 118 color photos, 45 color drawings, 9 3/4" x 10 1/4", hardcover, \$19.95

This book is one of the inaugural volumes of the new Collection by the well-known retail mail-order company, The Wayside Gardens Company, of Hodges, South Carolina. When I thumbed through the book and saw all of the marvelous pictures, I thought that this would be one of the typical coffee table books that would have very little information that would be of use in Southern California. I was wrong. This is a wonderful book. I read it cover-to-cover and was impressed with the clarity of the instructions, the quality of the pictures that showed the point being illustrated, and the clearness of informational sketches. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in container gardening. Not only does it cover the planting, but the suggestions for using plants are excellent. If you are looking for a gift book for a gardening friend, this would be a good choice.

Reviewed by B. S. Jones

HOW TO OPEN AND OPERATE A HOME-BASED LANDSCAPING BUSINESS: An Unabridged Guide

Owen E. Dell

Connecticut, The Globe Pequot Press, 1994, 224 Pages, 5 1/2" x 8 1/4", softcover, \$14.95

This authoritative handbook is written by a knowledgeable person who opened a landscaping business. (He is a Southern Californian, too.) It covers every aspect of the business from buying tools through obtaining permits and keeping required records. I was particularly impressed with sample worksheets,

bid forms, invoices, and statements. The book is readable and to the point. It is well indexed so you can find topics easily. If you have been thinking about using your love of plants and the outdoors in a landscape business, this is the book to read before you make a final decision.

Reviewed by B. S. Jones

THE WILD GARDEN

William Robinson

Portland, Timber Press, 1994, 318 pages, 90 B&W illustrations, 6" x 9", hardcover, \$24.95

This book was first published in 1870, and its reappearance is likely to be of special interest to San Diego Floral Association members because it is a facsimile of the 1895 edition. William Robinson was a prolific writer, and the importance of his work as a gardener and landscape designer is well known. Some of his books are available in the SDFA Library, among them a complete bound set of *The Garden*, a magazine he founded in 1871 and edited until 1899. This set belonged to Robinson. SDFA's own Kate Sessions bought it from him when she visited him at his home in England in 1925. Her account of this event appeared in *California Garden* when she returned to San Diego later that year. Both Miss Sessions and Mr. Robinson were passionate gardeners as well as strong personalities, and this encounter must have been a remarkable meeting.

Born in Ireland in 1838, the young William went to work at an early age as a gardener; in 1860 he moved to England, where he continued his career at the Royal Botanical Society. Promotion was rapid, and in a few years he was a recognized authority, and a Fellow of the Linnean Society. His ideas and opinions were revolutionary and original, and he was forthright in expressing them. In 1870 he visited the United States on a coast-to-coast trip, and he also published three books, one of which was *The Wild Garden*.

In the nineteenth century garden design was largely contrived and artificial. Robinson called it "wallpaper patterns," and he also disapproved of carpet bedding and topiary. He advocated natural styles and the use of greater variety of plants, including many from other countries. In Chapter 1, titled "Explanatory", he sets out his principles and emphasizes the advantages of his system. In the following chapters he describes several garden plans and discusses shrubberies, woodland drives and grass walks, and other specifics. Five chapters are used to recommend suitable plants.

The very beautiful artwork for this book was done by Alfred Parsons, who is famous for his paintings in *Genus Rosa*. SDFA owns a copy. Engravings of this kind are unusual in modern books, but these are exactly right in complementing the text. Although this is a facsimile edition there are additions in the form of a foreword by Peter Herbert and an introduction by Judith Tankard, and there are two useful appendices. These give background information and add to the weight of the book.

Robinson's *The English Flower Garden*, 1883, has been called his magnum opus; but *The Wild Garden* was his favorite, and it became a key factor in an important phase in the history of gardening. Now with the reappearance of *The Wild Garden* William Robinson's influence on Victorian gardening can be more fully recognized.

Reviewed by Elsie M. Topham

Light Enough for Palms Indoors, If . . .

(continued from page 135)

25 FOOT-CANDLES MINIMUM

Parlor Palm* *Chamaedorea elegans* small, single-trunked

Cover Palm *Chamaedorea radicalis* small, durable

50 FOOT-CANDLES MINIMUM

Bamboo Palm* *Chamaedorea erumpens* upright, wider leaves

Bamboo Palm *Chamaedorea seifrizii* upright, narrow leaves

Kentia Palm* *Howea forsteriana* withstands low humidity

Lady Palm* *Rhapis excelsa* elegant, multiple-stemmed

100 FOOT-CANDLES MINIMUM

Triangle Palm *Neodypsis decaryi* three ranked leaves

200 FOOT-CANDLES MINIMUM

Footstool Palm *Livistona rotundifolia* shallowly-divided round leaves

Paradise Palm *Rhopaloblaste augusta* Like a fine-textured kentia

300 FOOT-CANDLES MINIMUM

Clustering Fishtail Palm *Caryota mitis* multiple-stemmed

Solitary Fishtail *Caryota urens* solitary-stemmed

Chinese Fan Palm *Livistona chinensis* fan-shaped leaves

Pygmy Date Palm* *Phoenix roebelenii* finely cut, drought tolerant

Majesty Palm *Ravenea rivularis* fast durable palm

400 FOOT-CANDLES MINIMUM

Sugar Palm *Arenga pinnata* black, fibrous trunk

600 FOOT-CANDLES MINIMUM

Areca Palm* *Chrysalidocarpus lutescens* inexpensive, disposable palm

Queen Palm *Syagrus romanzoffiana* (*Cocos plumosa*) gray trunk, plume-like leaves

Windmill Palm *Trachycarpus fortunei* cold-hardy, solitary palm

Mexican Fan Palm *Washingtonia robusta* tall, solitary fan palm □

This article is based on former farm advisor Dr. Henry Donselman's research. The research was done in Florida but is useful anywhere. (Editor's note: There is a difference of opinion on the spelling of *Howea forsterana*. We have used Dr. Donselman's preference in the article.

Betty Newton teaches gardening classes at Grossmont Adult schools and writes for the Sunday San Diego Union Tribune.

COMING SOON, ARTICLES ON:

The Latest Research on Palm Nutrition

Further Revelations from Dusty Craig

California Sycamore and London Plane Trees

Triteleia ixiodes

Rust on Zonal Pelargoniums

SAN DIEGO FLORAL TOUR
WORLD FLOWER FESTIVAL
MONDAY 30 OCTOBER 1995

Potential, beginning and advanced flower arrangers and any one else who enjoys flowers will love this trip. This is the thirty-third Cultural Symposium presentation of the Los Angeles Garden Club and the Greater Los Angeles District California Garden Clubs.

The day begins with the flower show entitled "Romance and Flowers," a floral arrangement display by the Los Angeles Arrangers Guild. There also will be sale items much needed by flower arrangers in the pursuit of their craft. The show and sale will be followed by a gourmet luncheon (included).

After lunch we will have the privilege of being enlightened by two outstanding speakers: First, we will hear and see LARRY STALLINGS, who has chosen "Flowers Speak of Love" as his subject. Larry grows much of his unusual plant material used in his creative designs. He always brings something new and unexpected to each of his demonstration sessions and we can expect nothing less this afternoon. San Diego's own VELMA WEST will be next on the program. As we all know Velma is an exotic-flower designer stressing dramatic colors and today she will speak on and demonstrate "Love Makes the World Go Round."

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
FLORAL TOUR
MONDAY, 30 OCTOBER 1995
WORLD FLOWER FESTIVAL

- ☐ \$43.00 Members (who pay dues to SDFA)
☐ \$46.00 Non-members, members of affiliates
(Lunch is included)

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PICK-UPS

- ☐ Red Lobster Park/Ride, Grossmont Center, La Mesa 6:45 AM
☐ Fashion Valley SW corner near Penney's 7:15 AM
☐ Hadley's at Palomar Airport Road, Carlsbad 8:00 AM

COMMUNICATIONS . . .

WE WELCOME LETTERS PERTAINING TO GARDENS!

Bathgate's piece on "Persimmon Pruning" is a masterpiece. Have him try pomegranates.

"Mary" Mello

Pasadena

It is clear that E.C. Snooks has not consulted his *Sunset Western Garden Book*, because if he had, he would not have said, "Camellias should never be allowed to go dry." [May-June issue] The *Western Garden Book* says, "Established plants (over 3 years old and vigorous) can survive on natural rainfall." If E.C. Snooks looked at a rainfall map like the one in Bob Perry's new book, *Landscape Plants for Western Regions*, he would find Menlo Park is in the same precipitation band as San Diego.

Granted, the bushes look better, flower better and grow better with occasional watering, but to say that they should never go dry seems to suggest that his experience with them and information about them is lacking. I cannot imagine why he would say to transplant them after they have started their new growth! You transplant during the winter when they are dormant. Pruning also is not done now. It is accomplished after flowering or after the plant has completed its yearly flush of new growth, late summer, fall, or winter but certainly not May, as E.C. Snooks would have us believe.

To tell the truth, when I first read that the Camellias would live on natural rainfall I thought that it was a misprint. To find out, I totally quit watering my Camellia. During the summer the leaves got crinkly and dry looking, it revived somewhat over the winter and had only two flowers the following spring. Keep in mind that Coyote Bush and other natives also look better if they get occasional water during the summer.

If you want reliable information read your *Sunset Western Garden Book*. If you can get the 1988 copyright edition buy it. It is not quite as pretty as the new one, but there is more information and the information is more accessible. To begin with in the older edition the Plant Selection Guide is at the front of the book where it belongs. Not on page 45, as it is

with the new edition. To illustrate the decrease in information consider that for trees to plant near swimming pools there are only ten now, not sixteen as in the 1988 edition.

David O. Lofgren

Monrovia

AS NOTED IN MR. SNOOKS LETTER, BELOW, THERE WAS AN EDITORIAL ERROR IN THE MAGAZINE, FOR WHICH WE APOLOGIZE.

In addition, the editor hopes that advice in the Sunset Western Garden Book is not based solely on growing conditions in Menlo Park.

In reply to the letter from Mr. David O. Lofgren please note the following: Mr. Perry's book may be an excellent book but to classify San Diego and Menlo Park as the same precipitation band is a gross error. A check with the federal meteorologists will find that Menlo Park gets 14.77 inches of rain as opposed to 9.90 for San Diego a difference of 49%. That does make a difference!!

There was an error in the May issue for the word "NOT" should have been inserted so that the item read "Now is the time to transplant those plants that have NOT started their new growth." Remember that each issue covers a two month span and some plants will not have started their growth in May. Although transplanting can be done at any time of the year as per Claude Chidamian who says "Camellias can be moved and planted safely any month of the year, especially if they are container grown." And from *The Camellia* the official book from the American Camellia Society, "A camellia can be safely transplanted from a container into the ground at almost any time of the year."

When we consider that nearly all people will be planting plants from containers it can be clearly seen that it can be done at any time.

As far as his experiment with his ONE camellia one wonders if he is happy with a sick plant and two flowers. I also challenge him to let his plant go for another season without water. I will bet that he will have a dead plant.

As for pruning we like to get the

unwanted new growth out as soon as possible to allow the energy to go into the rest of the plant. Hence we will prune at ANY time of the year.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Lofgren has made himself a self made expert with his one camellia bush. When he has 100 plus plants in his collection and has published extensively in both national and international publications as well as being an accredited judge of camellias for 40 years then and only then can his opinions be taken seriously.

E.C. (Gene) Snooks

La Jolla

ADDRESSES FOR ILLUSTRATORS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

We apologize to Carol Leland (see page 135 credit, below) for failing to give her credit in the JULY-AUGUST issue for the evocative drawing on page 102.

(cover)

Pat Maley Belkham

(A former San Diegan, Mrs. Belkham has donated many covers, other drawings and articles to this magazine.)

5825 Montevino Drive

San Jose CA 95123-3934

(page 134)

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San Diego CA 92163-3407

Telephone 619/574-0558

(page 135)

Carol Leland

1800 Washington NE

Albuquerque NM 87110

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(page 137)

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Becker Land Planning

7975 Cicada Court

San Diego CA 92129

Telephone 619/538-2456

(page 144)

Mike Miller, Landscape Architect

Miller Design

2833 Granada Avenue

San Diego CA 92104-4933

Telephone 619/281-4546



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435-5669

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435-1938

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Valley Center CA 92082-0123

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454-4109

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P. O. Box 122

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443-1529

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222-3643

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724-3749

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Vista CA 92083-5017
1st Fri - 12:00 pm, Vista Senior Center

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Pres: Yoshie Sesma 279-2511
2422 Harcourt Drive
San Diego CA 92123-3608
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2nd Tues - 10:00 am

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AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

Pres: Beverly Decker 442-7484
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3155 Vista de Chaparras
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13368 Darview Lane
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2nd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

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Pres: Ronald A. Chisum
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4th Sat - 12:45 pm, Joslyn Sr Ctr, Escondido

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1st Sat - 10:00 am, Quail Gardens

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THE HERB CLUB

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3rd Thu - 7:30 pm, Call for location

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SAN DIEGO HOYA GROUP

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5217 Cassandra Lane
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Pres: Hazel E. Carson
6177 Tooley Street
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2nd Sat - 10:00 am
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7536 Charmant Drive #1123
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1st Mon - Casa del Prado

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SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

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P. O. Box 1390
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3rd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

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2315 Paterson Road
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Pres: Ardell Marlin
310 Seeman Drive
Encinitas CA 92024-2840
3rd Wed - 7:30 pm, Carlsbad Woman's Club

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San Diego CA 92176-1020
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ORGANIC

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940 Redbud Road
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3rd Tue - 7:00 pm, Bonita Valley Baptist Church

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AFFILIATES:

Send changes to: Lynn Beyerle, Affiliates
Editor *California Garden*, Casa del Prado,
Room 105, Balboa Park, San Diego CA
92101-1619. Call 232-5762.
Deadline for Nov-Dec issue: Sep 15, 1995.

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Monkey Flower

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HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR
(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 130)

OCT. 24

★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION**
Basket Class. Casa del Prado, Rm 104, Balboa Park. Basketry 101, Man made material for make up class. RSVP 232-5762. \$5.

OCT. 28-29

THE HUNTINGTON Cactus and Succulent Show. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. Sat. & Sun. 10:30AM-4:30PM. 818/405-2141. \$7.50.
DESCANSO GARDENS Chrysanthemum Show. 1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada Flintridge. 9AM-5PM. 818/952-4401. \$5.

OCT. 30

★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Bus Tour. World Flower Festival, Pasadena. Floral design. See page 153.

Weekends

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Weekly

SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN Docent Tours Balboa Park by Organ Pavilion. Tues., Fri., Sat., Sun. 10AM-4PM. Gate donation. Free 3rd. Tues.

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Every Tuesday

BALBOA PARK INTERPRETIVE WALKS Ranger guided tours of Botanical History of Park. Meet Balboa Park Visitor Center, Plaza de Panama. 10AM. Call 619/235-1121. Free.

Deadline for submission to HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR for Nov./Dec. issue is Sept. 15. SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION is not responsible for changes that are submitted late by the organizations.

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